

# Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



Vol. 48, No. 41

[www.laughlin.af.mil](http://www.laughlin.af.mil)

Oct. 20, 2000

## the inside Scoop

### CC corner

47th Operations Support Squadron commander, reminds base members of Laughlin's vital role in the Air Force's mission.

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### Graduates

Seven graduate from Laughlin's second Airfield Operations Officer Training Program.

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### Recruiters

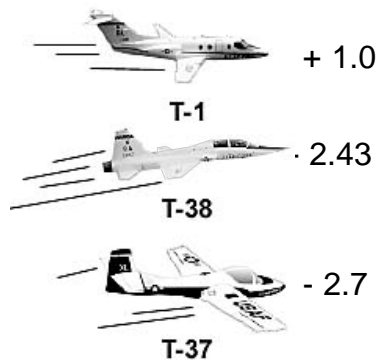
Recruit-the-Recruiter team has scheduled a briefing on base to talk to people interested in becoming a recruiter.

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### Mission status

(As of Oct. 18)

Days ahead(+) or behind(-)



### Fiscal Year 2001 statistics

--Sorties flown: 3,783.7  
--Hours flown: 2363  
--Pilot wings earned in FY 01: 0  
--Wings earned since 1963: 11,708

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Photo by Staff Sgt Reginal Woodruff

Robert Garcia, Goodwill Industries, loads a bailing machine at the base's recycling center. The machine compacts bags of recycled paper into 1,100 pound cubes.

## Base recycling center wins excellence award

By Staff Sgt.  
Reginal Woodruff

Public Affairs

Two Air Education and Training Command bases were honored in Houston Tuesday at the Texas Recycling Summit for their contributions to the environment through recycling partnerships.

Laughlin and Randolph Air Force Bases, Goodwill Industries of San Antonio, and Central Texas Recycling Association earned the Texas Environmental Excellence State Recycling Partnership Award. The award recognizes the partnership that excels in supporting the state's recycling mission and promotes innovative and creative ways of enhancing recycling.

The bases are the first federal agencies to enter into a cooperative partnership managed by a public recycling mar-

keting group.

Goodwill Industries of San Antonio manages the recycling center at Laughlin.

"I'm enthused to be apart of the coalition with Laughlin," said Rudy Rodriguez, Goodwill Industries assistant director of contracts. "The partnership is doing great things for the environment. I hope to get the city of Del Rio involved to make us even stronger."

According to Robert Garcia, a Goodwill Industries employee here, the base recycling center collects more than 12,000 pounds of bottles, cans and paper every month from the housing area alone.

John Chiaramonte, 47th Civil Engineer Squadron environmental flight chief, accepted the award on behalf of Laughlin.

## Peters, Finch talk pay, promotions during base visit

By Staff Sgt. Reginal Woodruff

Public Affairs

Laughlin welcomed the Air Force's top civilian and enlisted leaders here Sept. 28, during their tour of Air Force training bases.

Secretary of the Air Force Whit Peters and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch attended a wing mission brief, visited the base's Radar Approach Control Network facility and wrapped up their stay at Laughlin with a wing, enlisted call, discussing a variety of topics with base personnel.

Many people at the enlisted call saw the new Air Force commercials for the first time, which Peters called part of the Air Force's strategic communications plan. The plan and other initiatives are part of the Air Force's efforts to increase recruiting, and more importantly, to keep the skilled people who are currently serving.

"You can never recruit your way out of a problem because the Air Force needs experienced people," said Peters. "We really need the people who are critical to making the Air Force run, those five-level folks. So if we don't keep retention up, we're not going to get the quality Air Force we need. I think ultimately we'll recruit what we need to recruit because we've now figured out if we get more recruiters on the street, better advertising and some initial money, we'll bring that back."

Contrary to popular belief, the secretary doesn't think money is the cure all for Air Force retention. According to market research conducted for the new ads, Air Force leaders found that many in the Air Force's target recruiting audience are truly passionate about public service as a career.

"I think the Air Force offers a different set of rewards," Peters said. "I think the Air Force offers excitement. It offers overseas travel, a great sense of community, and a wonderful teamwork, atmosphere, all of which are priceless in my view. Now that doesn't mean we can pay people unfairly, but I think there is a great quality of life, quality of service benefits that doesn't exist in the civilian sector, which people need to think about."

"Of course we don't pay most people in the Air Force what they can make in the civilian community. But I believe the reason we're keeping people

See 'Peters,' page 5

# Commanders Corner

## Everyone at Laughlin plays part in accomplishing Air Force mission

By Lt. Col. Lenny Jankowski

47th Operations Support Squadron commander

Brig. Gen. Duncan J. McNabb, director of programs, deputy chief of staff for plans and programs at the Pentagon, spoke at the last student undergraduate pilot training graduation and reminded me of how deeply we touch lives and change history.

Every time a C-17 lands in the deepest part of Africa to deliver food to starving people, you and I change history and affect lives. Every time an F-15 Eagle shows its fangs and protects our airspace, we should hold our heads a little higher. Every time a sick child is med-evacuated to a hospital and saved, we should beam with pride.

Every time a jet roars down the runway to accomplish its assigned mission, we make a difference. We are all an integral part of a team and each of us is responsible for the accomplishments of the Air Force.

Here at Laughlin, our mission is to shape future air leaders and to train the best pilots in the world. Those Air Force servicemembers who accomplish our worldwide mission were trained and touched by those here at Laughlin. When they leave, a little part of each of us goes with them. Into combat, or to the front lines, or in support of a humanitarian mission, a part of you and I goes with them. The ladies at the commissary, the gentleman at the post office, the bleary-eyed

radar approach control troops, the barbers, security forces and the rest of the Laughlin family touch those air leaders who are spread throughout the world and defend our country. We enable freedom and make a difference in the world.

Last week was my birthday and I got some great gifts, from a very special personal gift to peanut butter cookies. One of the best gifts I got was when I watched a chief master sergeant, airman 1st class and a senior airman work end-less hours fixing the base radar.

I watched the pilots handle massive delays and loss of mission capability with professionalism. I watched a tired base operations, tower and RAPCON crew adapt and make the best out of a very challenging situation. I could not have asked for a better birthday as team Laughlin pulled together and met the challenge.

Gen. Michael E. Ryan, Air Force chief of staff, made the following statement to Congress as he testified in an effort to fund Air Force needs and take care of the people:

"I can't tell you how proud I am of these airmen who, on a day to day basis, are putting their lives on the line for this nation. Despite these challenges, they are capable of fighting and winning today."

I applaud your efforts, dedication and accomplishments. You make this squadron commander proud!

*"Here at Laughlin, our mission is to shape future air leaders and to train the best pilots in the world. Those Air Force servicemembers that accomplish our world-wide mission were trained and touched by those here at Laughlin."*

**-Lt. Col. Lenny Jankowski**  
47 OSS commander

## Red ribbons are more than just clothing accesories

By Master Sgt. Steven V. Heffelfinger

AETC Medical Services and Training

When citizens of a small community donned red ribbons in tribute to the memory of Enrique Camarena, they not only made a commitment to battle against illegal drugs, they also vowed to honor the death of the drug enforcement agent who was slain by drug traffickers for years to come.

Enrique "Kiki" Camarena grew up in a dirt-floored house with hopes and dreams of making a difference. He worked his way through college, served in the U.S. Marine Corps, and became a police officer.

When he decided to join the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, his mother tried to talk him out of it, but he said to his mother, "I can't not do this. I'm only one person, but I want to make a difference."

The DEA sent Camarena to work undercover in Mexico investigating a major drug cartel believed to include officers in the Mexican army, police and government. On Feb. 7, 1985, the 37-year-old Camarena left his office to meet his wife for lunch. Five men appeared at the agent's side and shoved him in a car. One month later, Camarena's body was found in a shallow grave. He had been tortured to death.

That's when friends and neighbors began wearing red badges of satin in honor of Camarena's memory and battle against illegal drugs. Parents and communities, sick of the destruction of alcohol and other drugs, began forming coalitions and adopted the symbol of Camarena's memory – the red ribbon.

An organization know as the National Family Partnership grew from this grassroots beginning and organized the first Red Ribbon Campaign in 1986. Since that time, the campaign has reached millions of American children and has been recognized by the U.S. Congress.

**See 'Ribbon,' page 11**

Col. Winfield W. Scott III  
Commander

Capt. Angela O'Connell  
Public affairs officer

Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit  
Editor

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**"Excellence – not our goal, but our standard."**

– 47 FTW motto

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### Deadlines, Advertising

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, Ext. 5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.** Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday.

Submissions can be E-mailed to: [bradley.pettit@laughlin.af.mil](mailto:bradley.pettit@laughlin.af.mil) or [reginald.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil](mailto:reginald.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil)

# Seven graduate from air traffic control program

By 2nd Lt. Anthony Sidoti

47th Operations Support Squadron

The Air Force has been training undergraduate pilots at Laughlin since 1961, but seven officers graduated in a ceremony at Club XL Tuesday without receiving any pilot wings. Instead of wearing wings, they will wear the Air Traffic Control badge.

Class 01-01 is the second class to complete Laughlin's Airfield Operations Officer Training Program, a five-month school designed to give new officers an operational orientation in air traffic control and airfield management.

After completing the training, these students will join an Airfield Operations Flight as systems officer or operations officers.

The AOF operates base operations, the air traffic control tower and, at some bases, the radar approach control facility.

While enlisted air traffic control specialists make up the core of controllers in the Air Force, AOF officers are required to be certified in specific control positions. Additionally, they must maintain proficiency in their "rated" positions.

Following their initial training here, the new officers will spend several months working on ratings at their new bases, in-

stead of spending additional time here working on position certifications and duplicating those efforts at their next location.

OTP is Laughlin's only non-rated officer training and the base only recently started hosting the OTP program – the other two bases that train airfield operations officers are Tyndall AFB and Altus AFB.

OTP Class 01-01 spent May in the classrooms learning about managing an AOF. Beginning in June, the students shadowed controllers and airfield managers for entire shifts and experienced hands on training filing flight plans, inspecting the airfield and controlling in both the RAPCON and in the tower. They also attended squadron and flight staff meetings, toured the Dallas/Fort Worth air traffic facilities, and went on orientation flights in the T-37, T-38, or T-1.

These graduates trained at the busiest air traffic control complex in the Air Force and under some of challenging conditions – and many of them have never controlled live air traffic prior to coming here.

The new students have only a short time to adjust from the training mode to the operational mode – official AOF duty begins as early as next week for some of the graduates.



Capt. Daniel Stegmeier



2nd Lt. Sheila Medary



2nd Lt. Anthony Sidoti



2nd Lt. Jeffrey Thomas



2nd Lt. Kevin Schlieper



2nd Lt. Kenneth Crowe



2nd Lt. Samantha Jordan



Officers wear the badge above after completing the five-month Airfield Operations Officer Training Program, designed to give new officers an operational orientation in air traffic control and airfield management, .

## Actionline

Call 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general in-

terest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the *Border Eagle*. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.



Winfield W. Scott III  
Col. Winfield W. Scott III  
47th Flying Training Wing commander

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Inspector General	298-5638
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Equal Opportunity	298-5400
FWA hotline	298-4170



# Air Force recruiting hits 34,000, beyond

The Air Force won its "war on recruiting" Sept. 26 when the 34,000th recruit of the year arrived for basic military training at Lackland AFB, Texas.

In July, when the 34,000th enlistment contract had been signed, the Air Force announced it was on track to make this year's goal. That contract, and more than 300 more, became reality with the arrival of the newest recruits.

As of close of business Sept. 28, 34,368 young Americans reported for basic training since the beginning of the fiscal year. Several more applicants may process, so the Air Force expects to fin-

ish the fiscal year Sept. 29 with more than 34,370 recruits.

The Air Force also drastically changed its prior-service and prior sister-service policies, allowing approximately 1,000 former airmen, soldiers, sailors and marines into its ranks. Combining the two programs, Air Force Recruiting Service contributed more than 35,000 enlistees to the Air Force this year.

Even with the fiscal 2000 goal past them, recruiters are still hard at work recruiting for an expected 34,600 new jobs for the next fiscal year.

(Courtesy AETCNS)



Photo by Senior Airman Chad Hackney

Airman Basic Wendell Rush stands in front of his fellow airmen prior to Basic Military Training graduation at Lackland AFB, Texas, Oct. 6. Rush, of Centralia, Ill., signed the 34,000th enlistment contract of fiscal 2000 in July, signifying the Air Force's attainment of its recruiting goal. The Air Force eventually surpassed its goal, sending 34,369 new airmen to basic training.

## Housing residents to see construction

Housing residents and base personnel have probably noticed a seemingly endless row of construction activity along Vandenberg Drive. A fence construction project is underway between military family housing and the Leaning Pines driving range.

This project is an effort to improve aesthetics and maintain quality standards for Laughlin. The fence will dress up the areas and delineate residential space and areas designated as community/commercial. The eight-foot tall

placed along the fence will soften the rigid lines of the fence beyond. The \$285,000 project is approximately 30 percent complete and represents the first phase of several upcoming fence projects throughout MFH. Also scheduled for construction is a \$100K privacy fence along another section of Vandenberg Drive. This fence will principally serve to screen the views from the street into residents' backyards.

Area residents should exercise caution when walking or driving through the construction areas and warn children not to enter construction sites. Base personnel should also exercise caution when using Vandenberg Drive.

For more information on this construction, contact Daniel Gallegos at 4299.

## Refractive surgery offered to certain active-duty members

Air Force readiness will take a new turn upward with the advent of two new laser eye surgery programs beginning this month. Certain Air Force members will be able to have corrective eye surgery performed at Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland AFB, Texas.

The new Refractive Surgery Center of Excellence will support these new Air Force programs. "The first is the program for aviators and special duty personnel," said Col. (Dr.) William Flynn, chief, ophthalmology flight. "WHMC will be the only Air Force site treating aviators. The funding has come through to allow us to establish the facility and hire the additional support staff needed to perform around 2,000 procedures each year."

The second program, set to start later this year, is the WarFighter Program. With participation from all the services and line commander coordination, this program will be offered at different sites to provide photorefractive keratectomy, or PRK, to active duty servicemembers whose military occupations make them eligible. These sites include Wilford Hall, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, and the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo.

Over the last 20 years, refractive surgery has made tremendous strides in effectiveness and safety.

"Refractive surgery for our active-duty members offers the opportunity to significantly enhance mission performance in the many military environments where the use of glasses or contact lenses is either impractical or compromises the ability to safely perform the mission," Flynn said. "For our warfighters, refractive surgery is a procedure to enhance readiness."

"Since we are all warfighters, all members are eligible, but on a priority basis decided by line commanders," Flynn said. "The refractive surgery service at Wilford Hall Medical Center will serve an important readiness role. The readiness benefit from eliminating or reducing the dependency on glasses will be enormous."

Serious complications are extremely

rare. Infection is the most worrisome complication and fortunately it can usually be eliminated with antibiotic medications. Other possible problems include delayed surface healing, corneal haze or scarring, over- or undercorrection, and the development of astigmatism.

Some individuals can have a poor or excessive healing response. Most complications remain treatable with medications or further surgery.

PRK is one of four refractive surgery procedures being performed in the civilian

world. The others are radial kerototomy, or RK; Laser in-situ Keratomileusis, or LASIK; and intracorneal ring implantation, or ICR. RK was the earliest of these procedures and has proved to lack the desired stable visual correction required for many military jobs, especially in aerospace. RK is not an acceptable option for any active duty person.

PRK utilizes a type of laser called an excimer laser to decrease nearsightedness. This form of laser vision correction removes a precise amount of tissue using a "cold" ultraviolet laser.

The laser utilizes a sophisticated computer program that calculates and removes a precise amount of tissue from the center of one's cornea to decrease its curvature. This change in the cornea brings the focal point of the eye closer to the retina and improves one's distance vision.

PRK is similar to LASIK in that the excimer laser is used to reshape the cornea to correct for nearsightedness, farsightedness and astigmatism. But with PRK, the laser is applied directly to the surface of the cornea, without the creation of a tissue flap. While LASIK and PRK have both demonstrated good results, the main difference between the two is recovery time. That, and also PRK is approved by the Food and Drug Administration, and LASIK is not.

"LASIK and other future refractive surgical procedures need rigorous evaluations before they can be deemed safe and effective procedures for active-duty personnel in aerospace environments," Flynn said. "For those not in aviation, special duty,

**See 'Surgery,' page 11**

*"Refractive surgery for our active-duty members offers the opportunity to significantly enhance mission performance in the many military environments where the use of glasses or contact lenses is either impractical or compromises the ability to safely perform the mission."*

**-Col. (Dr.) William Flynn**  
Chief, ophthalmology flight,  
Wilford Hall Medical Center

‘Peters,’ from page 1

is because they are having fun; they find the Air Force a good community to raise a family, and ultimately, they really believe public service is important. I mean look at pilots; there are a lot of them who still, even after bonuses, are not being paid competitive to the airlines. On the other hand, you hardly ever fly a civil-airliner upside down, you almost never get a chance to be overseas, and you almost never get a chance to fly somewhere like Kosovo. I think people really feel strongly that contribution is worth something,” Peters added.

Chief Finch was more reflective during the visit. He talked about how far the Air Force has come since he joined 26 years ago and his optimism for the future of the force.

“There have been lots of changes from both an equipment and personnel standpoint,” Finch said. “I came in when we were working on F-4s. Even when I became a PME instructor in 1980, we still had manual typewriters, so we thought word processors were the thing of the future. In today’s environment, you have computers and e-mail, and technology has just exploded.

“We’ve become an all-volunteer force within my tenure in the Air Force,” Finch continued. “I think that has made us a very good force. We’ve gone through the close of the Cold War and become an Expeditionary Aerospace Force. It’s been a metamorphosis. Quite frankly, it’s an exciting time to be in the Air Force.”

An improvement or “correction”, as Finch called it, to the enlisted promotion rates is something that he is particularly proud of. In consecutive years, the Air Force set records for promotion to staff sergeant, promoting 36.39 percent of people eligible in 1999 and 51 percent in 2000. However, some people think we are promoting too many, too young, and Finch has found himself justifying this change.

“We added requirements that will allow us to promote more people,” said Finch. “When you promote more people, and you rack and stack; you actually can draw the line (minimum overall

score for promotion) lower than before and that generally means people don’t have to score quite as high on the tests.”

According to Finch, promotion pin-on times had incrementally increased over the years, to the point where people were pinning on staff sergeant at seven and a half years, on average. This is a stark con-

trast from the Army, where most soldiers are promoted to E-5 in four and a half years or less.

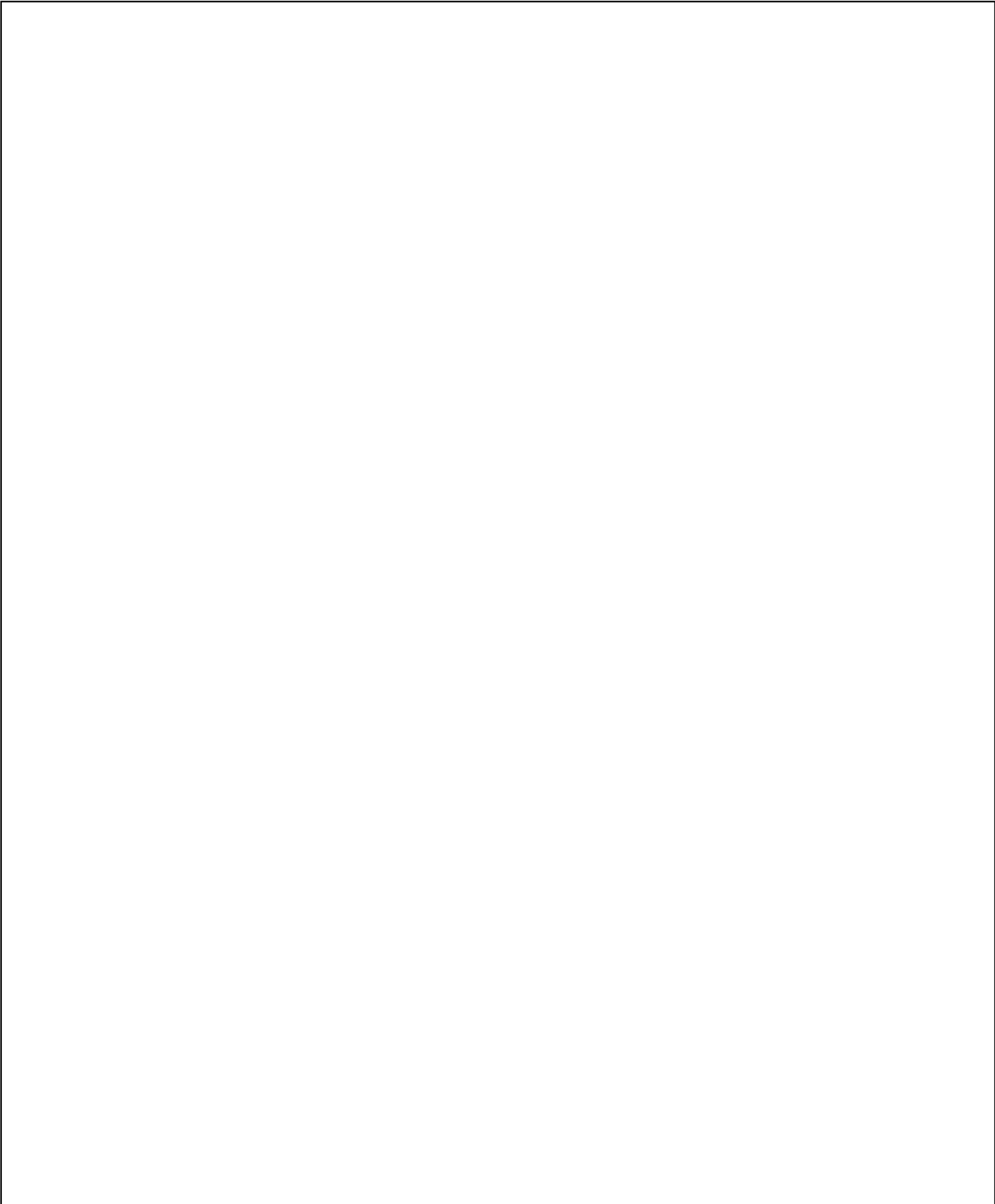
“If you asked most of the senior people, the chiefs in the Air Force today, when they pinned on staff sergeant, you’ll find that the vast majority probably have pinned on under six years,” said Finch, who became a staff sergeant in less

than five years. “What we have done to promote to the new requirements, is push the pin-on time for staff from seven and a half, to six years. That’s a good thing. I see this as a correction to something we were trying to fix.”

This change is part of the chief’s goal to leave the place he works and the organization he

works for a little better than he had it.

Secretary Peters and Chief Finch said they, along with Gen. (Michael) Ryan (Air Force Chief of Staff), are committed to improving benefits, pay and overall quality of life for people in the Air Force now and those who will join in the future.



# Recruit the recruiter team to visit base

Do you want to play a part in shaping tomorrow's Air Force?

If so, then now is time to learn more about the rewarding career of a recruiter when the Recruit-the-Recruiter team briefs here at 9 a.m. Tuesday in building 316, education building. Senior airmen with less than six years of total active federal military service and staff through master sergeants with less than 16 years Total Active Federal Military Service may be eligible to apply.

Recruiting duty is an opportunity to serve your country by being an ambassador in blue. In many cases, you will be the only Air Force representative in the community. Recruiters receive \$375 a month Special Duty Assignment Pay, manage their own

office and have the chance to be stationed near their home states.

Recruiting officials encourage those people who are in a mandatory retraining career field to attend this briefing.

For those who qualify, the RTR team will select them for a recruiting vacancy on the spot. Those selected will attend the six-week recruiting school at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Spouses are encouraged to attend the briefing so they can fully understand the opportunities available in recruiting.

For more information, visit the Recruit the Recruiter website at [www.rs.af.mil/rtr.htm](http://www.rs.af.mil/rtr.htm) or call the team at DSN 487-3511/3512, or commercial (210) 652-3511/3512. (AFRS Randolph AFB)



(Courtesy photo)

Few jobs offer Air Force members a chance to shape tomorrow's Air Force today. One such job, as an Air Force recruiter, is available to select enlisted members. To find out how you can help, attend the Recruit-the-Recruiter briefing at 9 a.m. Tuesday in the education building.

## America's Air Force

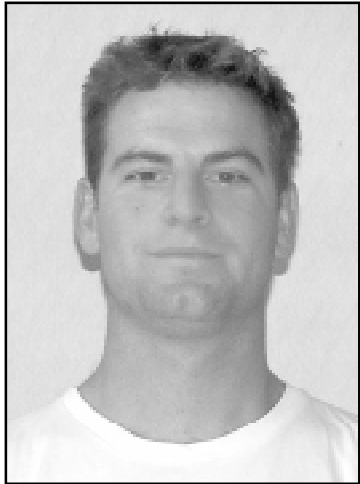


## No One Comes Close

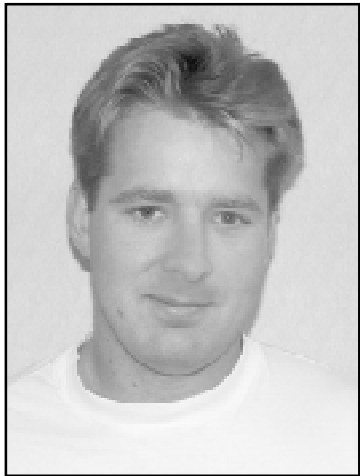
830-774-0911 robb341@rs.af.mil

## Question of the week

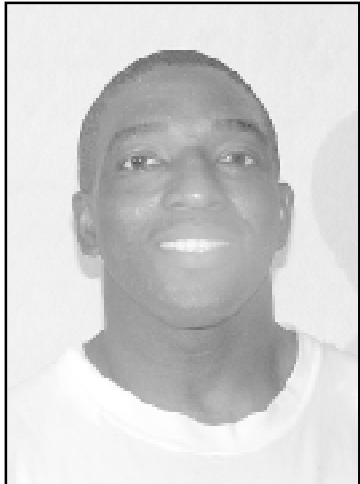
### What can you do to enhance Laughlin's relationship with Del Rio?



"Get involved in community programs."  
**Capt. Mike Uffulman**  
84th Flying Training Squadron



"Do a career day with younger kids."  
**1st Lt. Bryan Eiley**  
84 FTS



"Being the role-model citizen, to give Laughlin a name, and living by the Golden Rule."  
**Lt. Col. Cleve McCray**  
86 FTS



"Start a program such as Habitat for Humanity to help build homes for flood victims or needy families."  
**Maj. Cheryl Thompson**  
47th Flying Training Wing  
staff judge advocate



## From the Blotter (Oct. 11-15)



■ An individual reported his flight helmet and mask had been taken from the parachute shop. An investigation is in progress. Information on this or any other incident should be directed to the law enforcement desk at 5100 or the Security Forces investigator at 5249. You may remain anonymous.

■ Security forces at the law enforcement desk received a call from a person at the Base Exchange stating they had detained a juvenile for alleged theft of AAFES property. Individual was turned over to Val Verde sheriff deputies.

■ Law enforcement desk was contacted about an individual, who had been barred from the base, entering the Mission Support building. The person was detained, re-issued a debarment letter, and escorted off the installation.

■ An individual backing out of his driveway struck a parked car causing three small dents to the front left door and a paint transfer. The individuals involved will take up the matter with their insurance agencies.

■ Four individuals requested help gaining access to their vehicles after locking their keys inside. Security Forces gained entry with no damage to the vehicles.

**Tip of the day:** When base personnel sell a vehicle they must ensure the base stickers are removed from the windshield and advise Pass and ID they no longer own the vehicle. This may prevent an unauthorized individual from accessing the installation.

**Safety Tip:** Parents should be aware that there are two damaged bus stops on base. One is located on the corner of Farrow and Cannon and the other on Vandenberg.

CE will replace the Plexiglas on the affected shacks as soon as possible. In the meantime children should not cause further damage to or play around these needed facilities. Your cooperation and supervision on this matter could prevent a serious injury from happening. Together we XL.

**EMERGENCY CALL 911, NON-EMERGENCY CALL 5100**

# Military dining tradition expanded as base holds family dining out

By Kc Radloff  
47th Services Division

Formal military dining outs are an ancient tradition rooted in the gatherings of pre-Christian Roman legions, Viking Warlords and King Arthur’s knights.

The British soldiers brought the customs to colonial America, where George Washington’s army picked up on the tradition.

Contact with British Air Forces during World War II and the “Wing Dings” of General H. Arnold evolved into today’s traditions of dining-ins and dining-outs. The purpose of a dining-in is to bring together a unit of military members in an atmosphere of friendship, good fellowship and social rapport in a formal set-

ting. Dining-ins are attended by the active duty military member only and are conducted in a most structured and formal setting.

The dining-out is a relatively new custom that includes spouses and guests in a similarly structured and formal setting.

The combat dining out was added just a few years ago and is held in a less formal setting. Traditionally, the events are held for either the enlisted or the officer members.

Laughlin will expand on the military dining tradition with a family dining out at 6 p.m. Nov. 18 at Club XL. The event kicks off Military Family Appreciation Week, Nov. 19-25. The purpose of the event is to bring military and civilian families associated

with the base together in the spirit of friendship and to honor the traditions of the past.

Children 10-17 may attend. The Child Development Center will offer the “Give Parents A Break” program for those families that qualify. Regular hourly

child care for ages 6 weeks to 10 years will be by reservation only. The last day for reservations for child care is Nov. 14. Space is limited, so reserve early.

Call 5149 for child care reservations.

This event is sponsored in part by Coca Cola Enterprises, USPA & IRA, Boeing and the Officers’ Spouses’ Club. Sponsorship does not constitute federal endorsement.

Tickets are now available. For more information, call 5474.

## Individual augmentees: no weekend warriors

Weekend Warrior has become synonymous with the term Reservist. It is a fact, Unit Reservists train one weekend a month. Few know some Reservist do not train on weekends.

The Individual Mobilization Augmentee is such an animal. The IMA trains and does their duty along side the Active Duty. Therefore they must work the same hours as their active counter parts. IMAs usually train Monday through Friday, performing eight to twelve hours of duty, depending on the shift schedule designated by their Active Duty organization. The Individual Mobilization Augmentee Program is a flexible and unique Reserve Program and not for everyone.

The IMA program does not allow cross training and you must hold at least a three level in your career field. You must be prepared to train during the same schedule as the Active Duty.

To view IMA vacancies on line go to the HQ ARPC web site at [www.arpc.org/arpc.htm](http://www.arpc.org/arpc.htm), click on Assignments.

You may also visit the HQ AETC web site at [www.aetc.randolph.af.mil/res\\_ang/afreserve.htm](http://www.aetc.randolph.af.mil/res_ang/afreserve.htm).

If you are interested in applying, or just want additional information on the IMA program, contact 2nd Lt. Shanna Latimer DSN 732-5487 or Commercial 830-298-5487.

Double your intake.

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<http://www.af.mil/newspaper>



# Base to reap rewards of end-of-year efforts

**By Dave Van Winkle**  
*47th Civil Engineer Squadron*

For most of the people around the base, Sept. 30 was just another day, but for a few organizations, the day marked the end of the fiscal year...the money year. And unless you're in one of those organizations, each year you ask yourself "Just what's the hoo-ha all about?"

From the Civil Engineer Squadron's point of view, Sept. 30 is a big deal. It's the day that construction projects have to be awarded or face losing the money. It is a long day and night where we see if all of our hard work at being ready to spend fall-

out funds pays off...it did. Between CE's plans and designs, financial management's funding, and Contracting's awarding of the projects, the "team" ended up awarding 33 projects in FY00, nine projects in the last two days of the year! This comes in what was suppose to be a "dry" funding year, in which we initially forecasted to fund three projects. It truly was a team effort.

The construction projects are varied and should go a long way towards improving quality of life at Laughlin.

In the family housing areas, earlier this year we replaced windows in 100 units, replaced 77

patios, and sealed most streets. Now we are replacing an additional 41 patios, building a fence and sidewalk next to the golf course and a privacy fence behind the houses on Ciarfeo along Vandenberg. We will also replace sidewalks in both the officer and enlisted housing areas, in addition to installing 10 handicap ramps at the intersections on the outside of Cannon Street.

Along the flight line, we will be repairing the interiors of three flight-line shacks, and repairing the historical roof leak at building 58. We also awarded the critically important x-ray crane replacement at the Non-destructive

Inspection Lab and the expansion of the Computer-Aided Instruction Lab in the Flight Simulator building, absolutely essential for a successful Joint Primary Aircraft Training System beddown program.

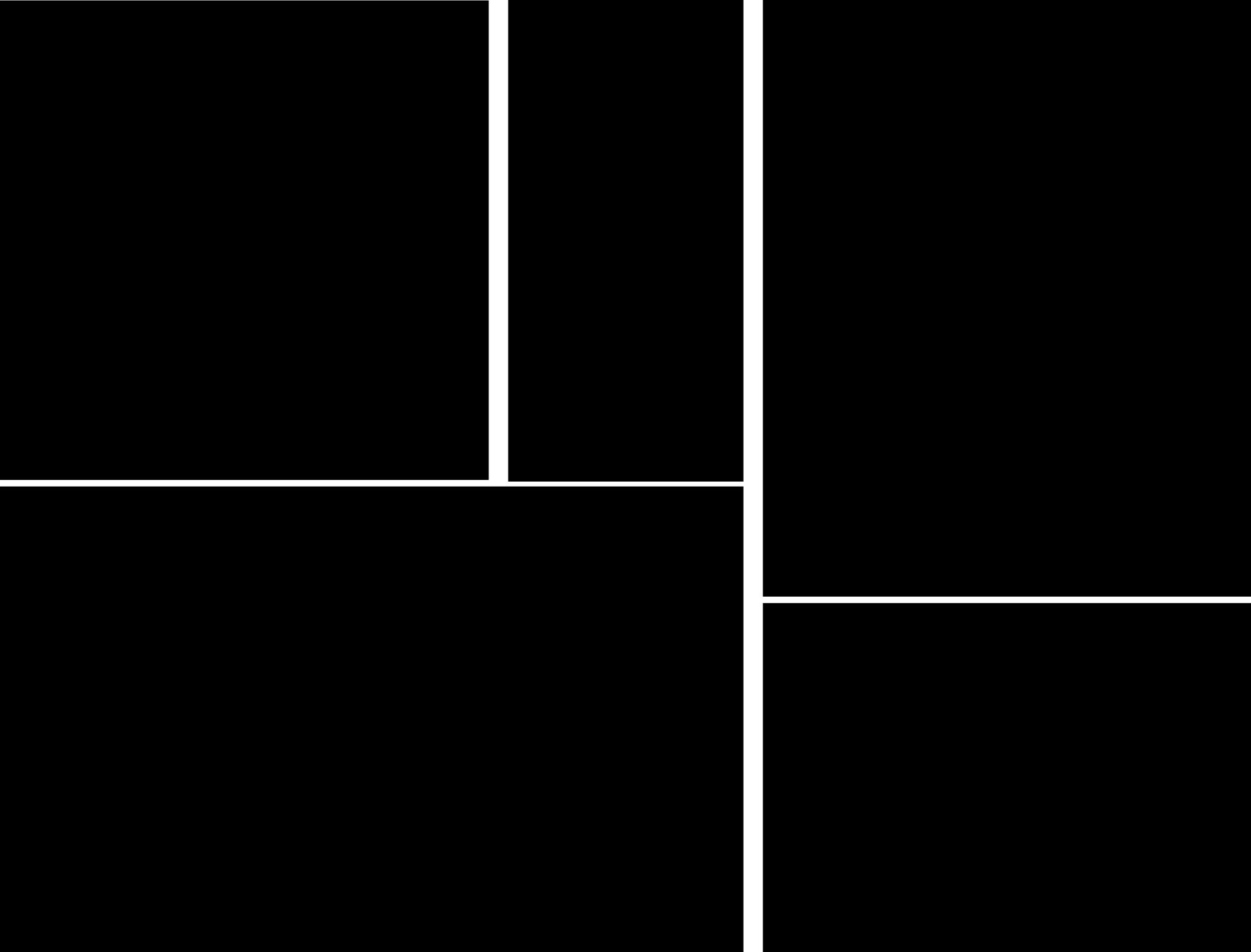
Some completed projects include the installation of carpet and wallpaper in the Operations Training Complex. We are also very proud to announce that we will be beginning the \$2.4 million, phase 2 repair to taxiway G soon; this comes on the heels of the recently completed phase 1 section.

The main portion of the base was not forgotten. We are going to repair some old roofs on

several facilities, install carpet in three facilities, including the base chapel install and modify parking lots, and paint 20 facilities.

Another highlight to this year's construction program was the award of the first delivery order for the Energy Savings Performance Contract. The first major project is the chilled water tank behind the flight simulator building. That tank will hold 300,000 gallons of chilled water and provides the OTC and the flight simulator complex with a cost efficient chilled water supply. The tank is expected to save enormous amounts of precious

**See 'Year,' page 12**



## The *XLer*

**Hometown:** Abilene, Texas.

**Family:** none

**Time at Laughlin:** 1 year, 10 months.

**Time in service:** 2 years, 4 months.

**Why did you join the Air Force:** I felt an urge to join, so I did.

**Name one way to improve life at Laughlin:**

All first term airmen should have a controlled one to two year tour at Laughlin.

**Greatest accomplishment:** Making below-the-zone.

**Bad habit:** Being anal.

**Motto:** Lead, follow or get out of the way!

**Favorite beverage:** Ice cold sweet tea.

**Favorite food:** If it tastes good, I'll surely eat it!

**Hobbies:** Reading and going out to "nature places" and writing.

**If you could spend one hour with an historical figure, who would it be and why?** Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This man helped give truth to the part of the preamble of our constitution, which states that, "all men are created equal."



Photo by Amanda Stewart

**Airman 1st Class Karl Lacsina**  
47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron

## Where are they now?

**Name:** 1st Lt. Reese D. "Rusty" Evers.

**Class/Date of graduation from Laughlin:** Class 98-13, Aug. 4, 1998.

**Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at:** KC-135R/T Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

**Mission of your aircraft?** The best aircrews and support personnel providing flexible worldwide air refueling and airlift.

**What do you like most about your current aircraft?** The Pacer CRAG avionics upgrade.

**What do you dislike most**

**about your current aircraft?** Insufficient heating/cooling systems.

**What was the most important thing you learned at Laughlin besides learning to fly?** Cooperate, graduate and fly to complete, not compete.

**What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin?** Having the operations group commander show up at my Mardi Gras party with his wife and a bottle of Jack Daniels.

**What advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin?** Never give up!



(U.S. Air Force photo of KC-135)

‘Ribbon,’ from page 2

Today, the simple piece of red ribbon is the symbol for drug, alcohol and tobacco prevention across the United States. Americans across the nation will celebrate Red Ribbon Campaign 2000 with the slogan “Get Real! Get Drug Free!” from Oct. 23-31.

Local drug demand reduction

offices will honor this event with various activities throughout Air Education and Training Command. Take a few moments to get involved, spread the word about healthy, drug-free lifestyles, and like Enrique Camarena, be a person who can make a difference.

So many different colors of

ribbons are being worn nowadays it’s easy to get confused about the true meaning behind them.

Join me and millions of other Americans in the fight against illegal drugs during Red Ribbon Campaign 2000. Join us in memory of Enrique Camarena. This campaign is more than just another pretty ribbon

‘Surgery,’ from page 4

or warfighter positions, they can get PRK or LASIK surgery at their own expense. There are a few requirements to be met first, however, such as notifying your local MTF and getting commander’s approval. One’s vision must meet retention standards and there can be no symptoms that limit daily

activities.”

With PRK surgery, 80 percent of patients can expect 20/20 or better vision without glasses. More than 99 percent can expect 20/40 vision, which is the level required to be able to drive without glasses.

“All the hype over refractive surgery has created a quick-fix mindset,” Flynn said. “People should not forget that this is real eye surgery. Like any surgery, something can go wrong, so it’s not something you decide on quickly. Although laser refractive surgery has improved greatly over the past 10 years, it’s still not down to zero complications just yet.”

There are certain guidelines that must be met for consideration in either of these programs. The degree of vision correction needed, age, and other pre-existing problems can disqualify a good number of people who may be initially interested in either program.

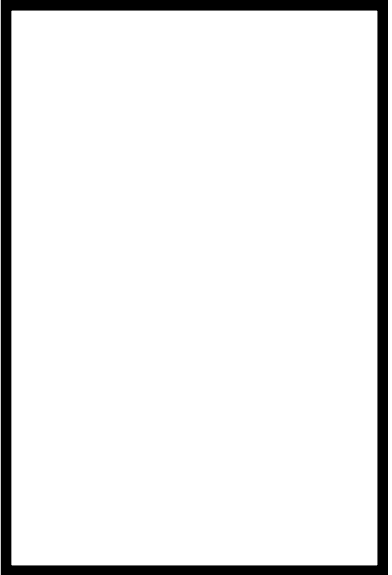
There are certain service requirements that must be met as well.

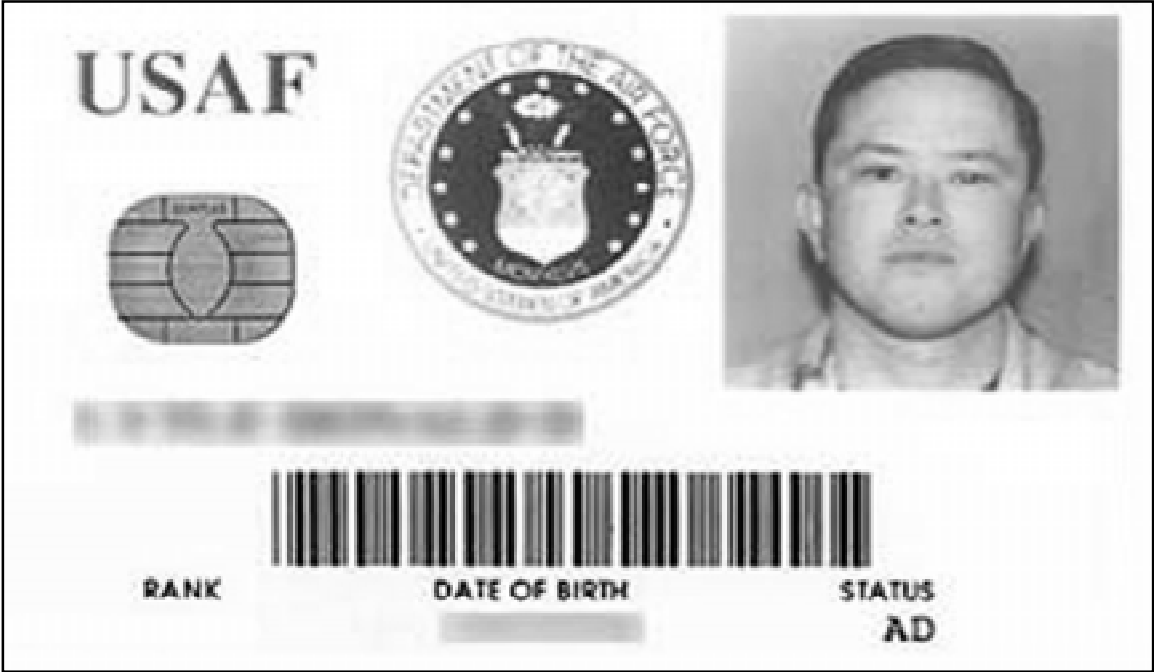
In the War Fighters program, patients must have a minimum of 18 months of time in service before treatment, and a minimum of 18 months left after treatment. The person cannot have glaucoma, any active ophthalmic disease, corneal irregularity, be taking certain medications, or have certain pre-existing medical conditions.

Additionally, there can be no mobility for four months after the operation, because the patient must take steroid eye drops. Once those are stopped, the restriction can be lifted.

More information about the Aviators Program, visit the PRK Web page at

[http://sg-www.satx.disa.mil/moasgoa/USAF\\_PRK.htm](http://sg-www.satx.disa.mil/moasgoa/USAF_PRK.htm).





(Courtesy photo)

## Smart card

In October, DOD began issuing the new multi-purpose card which will become the standard ID card for about 4 million active-duty members, selected reserve, civilian employees and eligible contractors. The cards have a 32 kilobyte computer chip, magnetic stripe and two bar codes.

## ‘Year,’ from page 10

energy resources. Additionally, ice storage tanks will soon be installed behind the Mission Support building to increase the efficiency of the air conditioning systems in that facility, as well as the enlisted dorms, dining facility and Communications building. Other ESPC projects provide lighting retrofits and the replacement of the chiller at the student pilot dorms.

Besides the successful award of the 33 projects, we also awarded the design of several large construction projects, some of which may be awarded for construction this coming year. The largest of the designs is a new 96-room, \$11.9 million visitor’s quarters, replacing the old Laughlin Manor. The new building will be built at the corner of 4th Street and Arnold Blvd and has an anticipated constructing start date of October 2001.

The engineers also are busy monitoring the progress of all major, on-going construction projects on the base. In the near future, the new Aircraft Corro-

sion Control Facility and the Engine Regional Repair Facility will be completed.

The most prominent project on base, the Base Operations and Control Tower Complex, continues growing, forever changing the skyline of the base. It’s scheduled to be completed next fall. The tower cab should be raised by Christmas.

An additional benefit with end-of-year funds was the funding of several work orders to be accomplished by the CE in-house contractor, East Inc. The additional funds will allow them to complete several backlogged projects, touching most organizations on the base. When you see a hole being dug, or a concrete truck slowing down traffic, remember that it’s just CE working for you.

All in all, it hasn’t been a bad year for one that didn’t start out too promising. Hopefully, next year we, once again, will be able to report to you the long list of projects that will make Laughlin a better place to live and work.



Laughlin's NFL: Gridiron Gurus								Week 8		
PLAYERS	Bruce Bond	Diane Bond	Eric Gonzales	Michael Houston	David Isbell	Lavelle Jenkins	Eric Linneman	Niels Roorda	Amanda Stewart	Chad Workman
LAST WEEK SCORE	13	11	10	8	6	9	13	9	10	7
OVERALL SCORE	43	39	37	35	32	33	39	34	34	31
DETROIT@TAMPA BAY	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.
ARIZONA@DALLAS	DAL	DAL	DAL	DAL	DAL	DAL	DAL	DAL	DAL	DAL
BUFFALO@MINNESOTA	MIN	MIN	MIN	MIN	MIN	MIN	MIN	MIN	BUF	MIN
CHICAGO@PHILADELPHIA	PHI	PHI	PHI	PHI	PHI	PHI	PHI	CHI	PHI	PHI
CLEVELAND@PITTSBURGH	PIT	PIT	PIT	PIT	PIT	PIT	PIT	PIT	PIT	PIT
DENVER@CINCINNATI	DEN	DEN	DEN	DEN	DEN	DEN	DEN	DEN	DEN	DEN
NEW ENGLAND@INDIANAPOLIS	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND
NEW ORLEANS@ATLANTA	N.O.	N.O.	N.O.	N.O.	N.O.	ATL	N.O.	ATL	N.O.	ATL
ST. LOUIS@KANSAS CITY	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL
SAN FRANCISCO@CAROLINA	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.
TENNESSEE@BALTIMORE	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN
SEATTLE@OAKLAND	OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK
WASHINGTON@JACKSONVILLE	WAS	WAS	WAS	WAS	WAS	JAX	WAS	WAS	WAS	WAS
MIAMI@NEW YORK JETS	MIA	NYJ	MIA	MIA	NYJ	NYJ	NYJ	MIA	MIA	NYJ

Intramural Flag Football Standings

FILLER

NFC TEAMS	WIN	LOSS	RECORD CONFERENCE/NONCONFERENCE	POINTS FOR/AGAINST
47OSS	1	0	1-0/	28/0
MDG	1	0	1-0/	8/0
EAST INC.	1	0	1-0/	2/0
47 MSS	0	1	0-1/	0/2
LCSAM	0	1	0-1/	0/8
84/85 Tweets	0	1	0-1/	0/28

AFC TEAMS	WIN	LOSS	RECORD CONFERENCE/NONCONFERENCE	POINTS FOR/AGAINST
LSI JETS	2	0	2-0/	33/0
86 RIOS LOBOS	2	0	2-0/	17/8
87 TALONS	1	1	1-1/	22/9
COM/CONS/SVS	1	1	1-1/	6/19
47 SFS	0	2	0-2/	0/28
47 CES	0	2	0-2/	0/14

## Laughlin history

Q-14: Which President of the United States dedicated the Amistad Dam?

- (a) Dwight D. Eisenhower
- (b) Lyndon B. Johnson
- (c) Richard M. Nixon

A: The correct answer is ... (C).

President Nixon and his family arrived at Laughlin on Sept. 8, 1969 and flew by helicopter to the dam site. There, he and Mexican President Gustavo Diaz Ordaz renewed vows of friendship and cooperation between their two countries.

## Farewell to the chief

A retirement dinner for Chief Master Sgt. Randy Crist, 47th Flying Training Wing command chief master sergeant, is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Oct. 30 at Club XL. The cost is \$15 for club members and \$18 for non-club members.

The meal for the evening will be Mexican cuisine, including chicken enchiladas, rice, beans, corn bread, flan and a margarita bar. It should be a fun evening, as we honor and “roast” our command chief.

Chief Crist’s official retirement ceremony is scheduled for 10 a.m. Nov. 1 at Ribas-Dominicci Plaza. A reception at Club Amistad will follow the ceremony.

Everyone is encouraged to attend both events. See your first sergeant to sign-up and pay for the retirement dinner.

For more information call, Chief Master Sgt. Johnny Hall at 5736.

## Disabilities luncheon

The Family Support Center will host a People with Disabilities Special Emphasis Program luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. today in the FSC classroom. Ron Trull, Office for Civil Rights, Texas Rehabilitation Commission and Martha Hinojosa, Rehabilitation Counselor, TRC, will be the guest speakers.

The FSC will have another luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursday, where Roberto Barrera, FSC director, will reveal his “4S’s”—the four factors that enabled him to overcome his disabilities.

For information or reservations for these events, call 5620.

## VI, BITC complaints

The contractor for Base Visual Information, Base Information Transfer Center, Postal Service Center and Publishing Distribution Office is Texas Management Associates.

Problems with BITC/PSC should be reported Master Sgt. Paul Tanaleon at [paul.tanaleon@laughlin.af.mil](mailto:paul.tanaleon@laughlin.af.mil) or 5358.

All VI complaints can be sent to George McKnight at [george.mcknight@laughlin.af.mil](mailto:george.mcknight@laughlin.af.mil) or 5177.

Note: VI customers must obtain clearance from the copyright owner before using music, photos or graphic products. VI requires 48 hours notice for support after duty hours or holidays.

## Tobacco cessation

Two Tobacco Cessation classes will be held 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Health and Wellness Center conference room.

For information call, Tech. Sgt. Ray Fernandez at 6463 or 6464.

## Anthrax briefings

The 47th Flying Training Wing commander has mandated all military personnel attend an Anthrax Vaccine briefing. Briefings will be 8 and 10 a.m., and 2 and 4 p.m. Oct. 26 in the OTC Auditorium.

Topics to be covered are military threat of anthrax, the safety and effectiveness of the anthrax vaccine, and the current DoD anthrax vaccine policies.

Attendees should arrive and must sign in. For more information call Public Health at 6380.

## Legion post meeting

The Del Rio-Laughlin American Legion Post 298 will have its regular meeting 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at “The Barn,” across from Laughlin’s Main Gate. Membership drive and Veterans Day will be key topics.

Anyone interested in veteran and military affairs and benefits is invited to attend. Active duty service members on honorable status, are eligible to join.

For more information, call Murry Kachel at 298-2097 or log on to [www.delrio.com/~mkachel/al/index.htm](http://www.delrio.com/~mkachel/al/index.htm)

## Talent show

The Laughlin Fiesta Center and Youth Center present the Fall Review IV—Saturday Night Fever 7 p.m. Oct. 28 at the Fiesta Center. Doors open at 6:30.

The show will feature music and dance from the 70s and 80s that should be entertaining for the entire family.

For more information, call Kc Radloff at 5474.

## Thrifty volunteers

The Thrift Shop needs volunteers. Anyone willing to work as little as one hour a week would be appreciated. Drop-in help is also appreciated. Childcare expenses resulting from volunteer work are reimbursed at the going rate of the Child Development Center.



Photo by Capt. Angela O'Connell

## ¡Olè!

A dancer from Casa de la Cultura performs traditional Mexican dances as entertainment during the Hispanic Heritage luncheon Sept. 11 at Club XL. The luncheon was one of several activities on base in observance of Hispanic Heritage Month. The guest speaker was Mayor Dora Alcalá, Del Rio.

For more information, call Amy King at 298-3731.

## Awards luncheon

The 47th Flying Training Wing will host a quarterly awards luncheon 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at Club XL.

For more information, call 5889.

## Halloween safety

With witches, goblins and super heroes descending on us Oct. 31, the American Red Cross offers children and parents the following common sense safety tips to help make the holiday safe and enjoyable:

- Avoid costumes that restrict vision or movement
- Walk on sidewalks

- Look before crossing the street
  - Cross the street only at corners
  - Wear bright or reflective clothing
  - Carry a flashlight
  - Plan your route and stay on it
  - Visit homes with exterior lights on
  - Accept treats at the door, never go into a stranger’s home
  - Save all treats until you get home and have a grown-up inspect them
- For more tips on keeping your family safe, call your local ARC.

**Note: Base trick-or-treat times are 6-8 p.m. Oct. 31.**

## Flowers available

Flowers will be available for family housing residents Saturday. For more information, call Nick Garza at 4356.